

## Unknown

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 9:51 PM  
**To:** Ruaro; Randall P (GOV)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)  
**Subject:** Helmet Laws

Thanks so much Randy - I appreciate this update and look forward to sitting down with you on these (and so many other!) issues.

Right out of the shoot - glad you told me about the mandatory helmet law referenced in DOT info. I don't support helmet laws. We'll do all we can to encourage usage, but I won't support legislating it. We'll have to communicate that to Leo asap. I believe enough states will protest any fed's threat of diminished DOT funds if a state refuses to enact helmet laws that Alaska will succeed with those other states on the issue.

The successes you report on the other fronts, esp with Ketchikan and Muni of Anchorage issues, are encouraging.

Thanks again, lots on our plates, this will be fun!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "Ruaro, Randall P (GOV)" <randall.ruaro@alaska.gov>

**Date:** Sat, 15 Sep 2007 21:40:09

**To:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com

**Subject:** Misc.

Dear Governor Palin:

Thank you for the opportunity to work for you. I will try and contribute as quickly as I can.

Just briefly, I have now met personally with all the Commissioners in my portfolio and the AG and asked about their issues. I also mentioned the idea from the meeting last week with Commissioner Monegan of forming a Criminal Justice Working Group or Commission. I think it would be similar to the group formed by Governor Hickel by an Administrative Order back in 1993. I have a meeting scheduled for next week to follow up with the Lt. Governor.

Also, a few positive things happened last week. The court case against the state related to the Anchorage jail and prisoner transport settled out of court by agreement of the attorneys. Documents should be filed with the court soon. The municipality and the State can now get back to working together.

DOT and the City of Ketchikan were locked in a nasty dispute over road and utility work on the main road in Ketchikan, with DOT threatening to shut down the project if the city did not approve payment of another \$775,000 for change orders. We managed to get everyone to agree to finish the project and sort out who pays later. The project should be completed in another week or 10 days.

I am working on a Gravina strategy and will meet with Mike again on Monday. A majority of my time so far has been spent meeting with DOT personnel and frankly, trying to find out exactly what issues are lying out there, what projects, items, they are working on, deadlines for action, and bringing some of them to the attention of the COS. (For example, the State's first Highway Safety Plan is due to the feds from the State on Oct. 1, and DOT's draft has some items in it (mandatory motorcycle helmets, now that will cause some controversy and would impact the state budget - a new state highway safety team).

Sincerely,

Randy Ruaro

## Unknown

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 11:22 AM  
**To:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV)  
**Cc:** Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)  
**Subject:** Re: AH

Mike- pls let me see info beforehand on sensitive items like this - I'll be seeing legislators tomorrow and I would need to know what our communications are with them on issues I'm working on. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

**Date:** Sat, 15 Sep 2007 11:18:23

**To:** ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>, "Balash, Joseph R (GOV)" <joe.balash@alaska.gov>, "Kelly, Russell T (GOV)" <russ.kelly@alaska.gov>

**Cc:** "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

**Subject:** RE: AH

Governor,

The following email was sent yesterday by Russ to all legislators as a heads up to AH's Sunday article. The text is the same as was sent back and forth to AH. I am not aware of any other media contact or legislative contact on the subject.

Mike

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Dear Legislators:

I want to bring your attention to a series of exchanges our press office had over the past week with former Representative Andrew Halcro. It is

expected he will have a column in the Anchorage Daily News on Sunday.

On Monday, he asked whether the Department of Law had conducted an investigation of the PPT votes last session. In response, we sent the following statement in writing on Wednesday:

The Department of Law requested access to the evidence gathered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. That access was denied. We do not wish to hamper their investigations or prosecutions. In the meantime, we continue to monitor the evidence presented in the trials. Nevertheless, we do not comment on investigations.

In this case, the public does have the plea agreements and testimonials from Rick Smith and Bill Allen. They have admitted to taking illegal actions to corrupt the outcome of the legislative process. Additional evidence is referenced in those documents as well as the indictments of the 3 former legislators.

Mr. Halcro followed that up with the following e-mail to Sharon Leighow that evening:

From: Andrew Halcro [mailto:ahalcro@ptialaska.net]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2007 6:36 PM  
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)  
Subject: Re: Andrew - Here is the response to the question posed Monday

Sharon,

Thanks so much for the quick response.

So just so I'm correct, no internal investigation has been done but the administration still feels the indictment of three lawmakers proves the whole legislative process was tainted. (I don't want to put words in

your mouth but I'm trying to relay the truth as succinctly as possible.  
Let me know if I'm off base....and yes that is an open ended offer  
regarding any subject :) .

Also just a reminder if the governor has some time on Tuesday, I'd be  
honored to have her on as a guest on Mike Porcaro's talk radio program.

Thanks.

Andrew

Out of concern that his column would reflect the erroneous conclusion  
that the governor believed all legislators are tainted, we sent a  
further response on Thursday morning:

Again, the FBI declined to share its evidence with the Department of  
Law, but we continue to monitor the evidence coming out in the trials.

The Governor has NOT said the whole legislative process has been  
tainted. However, the outcome has been colored by the guilty pleadings  
of two executives and the actions of a few legislators. That does not  
make the Legislature as a whole guilty. Here's what she had to say  
last week:

"Aside from the corruption scandal where oil service company  
executives have plead guilty to bribing certain lawmakers for a  
particular oil tax outcome last year, and of course those corruption  
trials beginning tomorrow, there's been a lot discussion out there in  
the public on that issue. There were obviously some lawmakers engaging  
in activities their fellow lawmakers did not condone regarding the oil  
taxes and we have many fine Alaskans serving in our Legislature.  
They're serving for the right reasons and I do look forward to working  
with these legislators in the coming weeks-and months-on new oil taxes."

The audio file is attached.

I want to be sure that each of you is informed of what we have said, and how the governor feels about the role of corruption in the outcome of the PPT debate last year.

Russ Kelly

Legislative Director

Office of the Governor

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 11:09 AM  
**To:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV)  
**Cc:** Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)  
**Subject:** AH

So I'm not caught off-guard, please let me know what all has been sent to legislators and/or media re: any kind of recent response to any of AH's rants and rages?

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

## Unknown

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**From:** Bailey, Frank T (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE  
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FTBAILEY]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 9:39 AM  
**To:** 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** Fagan + AOGA

Before I forget to mention it, Dan had a 'packet' from AOGA in his studio when Jeff guest-hosted last Wed. It had colorful charts, brochures, etc. Jeff said to Dan, "Dan? These are your talking points?". No or little response from Dan.

Not that this is a shock, but it helps confirm what we've all expected.

F



## Unknown

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**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 9:37 AM  
**To:** 'ftb907@yahoo.com'; Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

You're so right. It's offensive, even, that he emails me this message this morning before he goes on the air to tell me he'll have to just "keep guessing" our position or willingness to help - and he'll "guess" about it on the air? He's shown some true colors.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Frank Bailey <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Smith, Lynne M (GOV)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 09:19:49 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

After talking to Glen for a long time the other night about the separation between The Homeschool issue, and his "method of delivery" on this issue, I'm struggling a bit that he's pressing AT ALL on this. It is on the radar screen, let us handle it. Maybe I'm being arrogant or offbase but if I ever did what Glen did on the air I would not be continuing to lobby my cause. I don't know if he "gets" that he queued up some pretty big gut shots to the administration for Pagan. He tells me that this issue is their 'pro-life' issue. I think I need to have another conversation with him. This is NOT the way a friend of the admin gets action on item.

F

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)" <govpalin@alaska.gov>  
**Date:** Sat, 15 Sep 2007 07:40:29  
**To:** "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>  
**Cc:** "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>, ftb907@yahoo.com, "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>, "Smith, Lynne M (GOV)" <lynne.smith@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Talis- i dumped a load of emails on you re: this issue bc Glen wants to sit down with you on homeschool issues. I know u dont have time. Lynne- pls capture Glen's concerns in a shorter email to Talis, pls cc me in, and then I'll talk to Talis about what we can do to help.

Talis doesnt have to read all the back and forth with Glen.

Glen's delievery of his messages on the fagan show have dampened my enthusiasm, to say the least.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 07:30:40 2007  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Sorry to keep bothering you. Here is the link to the memo from Norstrand about religious materials. Just want to save you time.

Thanks

Glen

[http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG_Memo.pdf) <[http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG_Memo.pdf)>

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <<mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>>  
<<mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>> >  
To: gbiegel@ak.net  
Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:56 AM  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Glen- i am in Juneau. I got your message a couple of days ago, have been tasking folks to find out what I'm missing so you could receive an appropriate response with going back and forth again. Without fail, each person has reported back that they were confident they had communicated with you about our desire to help. I had people spend more than a day looking for "my" letter to you that seemed to have been the catalyst for the miscommunications on the air, because we wanted all info in front of us in order to respond. That letter was nonexistent, I believe you clarified then about the letter. That was less than three days ago. We're still seeking info on this issue so there will be no more miscommunications, damaged relationships, distrust, missed opportunities to help, etc. I believe you overreacted and you left many people with the impression that their homeschool issues will be better dealt with in a different administration.

It doesn't seem wise to me for you to "make guesses" about anything, then speak about it on the air. I have not had the chance to sit down with the AG to speak about this, as your request is to speak to him, so though it's not wise, nor fair, to "make guesses" again on the air, I can not tell you what to say on air... I've already expressed the commitment to help, the tasking of staff to gather more information so the board can more aggressively tackle the issues, I've insisted homeschoolers get adequate time to address the board... etc.

I know Frank Bailey was able to speak with you from Anchorage. I am sure he told you again that we're working to find solutions, as Pat Shier (I believe) has also conveyed to you.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 06:38:06 2007  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

I still don't have any indication on how you want to proceed (Timeframe, next steps, meetings, etc). I am having to make guesses on what will happen in the future without any guidance, and then speak about it on the air. I will indicate on air that I did not get the information to you or to the right people and that I have every confidence that this issue will turn out, but it would be nice to have something more than your response below.

I don't want to make things worse (if they can get worse).

Thanks

Glen

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov  
<mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov> >  
To: gbiegel@ak.net  
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2007 1:49 PM  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

I was not provided all this information/communications Glen. Thanks for bringing it to my attention- but this is all the more reason a more responsible venue should have been found for you to air your grievances instead of playing into our known critic's hands. Fagan seemed to be using you, big time. All I could think of when listening to you was: "With friends like this, who needs enemies".

And it's not personally "hard on me" to go through things like that yesterday, but a conservative agenda gets squashed when those who could be working together to accomplish something are set up like you were yesterday. That was brutal Glen, and I've heard from others saying worse things than "brutal". Please don't pass these thoughts on to Fagan - he hates me and my administration enough as it is.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Wed Sep 12 09:25:25 2007  
Subject: Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

Here is a copy of a letter from Lynn Smith and an email from one of our parents.

Thanks

Glen

Here also is a paste from a different email about a response to Lynn Smith and a conversation that She, Sally Javier and I had:

Hi Lynn,

Thank you for replying. I would like to talk to you more on the comments from Barbara Thompson and share more information that I pray you will share with the

Governor. The comments from Mrs. Thompson raise many concerns for parents who have been left out of this process.

There was the perception of abuse. How many of these abuses were documented? Why didn't the DEED do something? All the laws needed to prevent that abuse were in place. All the regulations needed to stop the abuse were in place. Why was regulation written in the absence of law? Do they admit that it destroys competition? Do they admit that homeschoolers are having choice stripped from them? This was ordered by former Governor Murkowski who told his staff to shut us down and quiet the papers. Why wasn't this handled with individual teachers who had a certificate they would like to keep?

Also, Lynn, it is not going to work for Mrs. Thompson to say that Galena agreed to this. Galena was negotiating with the DEED and lobbying the legislature for other programs at the same time. Where were the other statewide programs at this meeting? Where were the parents? Open testimony was closed even though there were lots of us waiting. Does Galena speak for all? A quick call to any of the Galena folks will give you the honest answer that all statewide programs were being held at gunpoint during those meetings. The gun was that if they did not take what they were offered, the Murkowski DEED and Murkowski Board of EED would shut them down. That meeting was one of the reasons why parents organized to look after the welfare of their children.

(I'm paraphrasing here.) Glen wondered how Rep. Hawker, and not the legislators who penned the legislation, could make decisions about regulations in the face of laws that are contradict.

Governor Palin told me when we talked (she was in Fairbanks at their fair campaigning) that she believed in competition. Regulating statewide programs with regulations that do not apply to in-district homeschool programs is an equity issue that can not be ignored.

Are you still at the office this morning? If we can not visit via phone today, when do you return from your (more than likely a much needed) vacation? Lynn, who would be your back up while you are on vacation?

When Governor Palin ran for office, she, personally responded to the AHEA questionnaire promising statewide homeschoolers, many of whom campaigned for her, some very specific things. Please see the list below.

Will the Governor meet with us? Has she turned her back on her promises? Who is the Board of EED and the DEED responsible to? Where do they get their authority?

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Sally Javier

1. Currently, the State provides funding for school districts which enroll distance education students from around the state. These statewide programs currently serve nearly 10,000 Alaskan students.

1. Would you support the continuation of State supported homeschooling in its current form?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

2. Brick and mortar schools in Alaska currently spend an average of \$1,500 per pupil on extra-curricular activities, yet the statewide correspondence programs are limited to spending approximately \$800 per pupil for fine arts and P.E.

2. Would you support removing the regulations which cause this inequality among Alaskan students?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

3. The regulations adopted in 2004 and new interpretations of regulations adopted in 2005 impose restrictions on statewide homeschool programs which are not imposed on in-district homeschool programs.

3. Would you work with the families of over 10,000 home school students to correct the disparate treatment of homeschool families according to their enrollment in a statewide or an in-district homeschool program?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

4. The statewide programs receive only 80% of the per pupil foundation formula amount, and they receive no support from local property taxes.

4. Would you work with our members to remove the 20% funding penalty imposed on homeschool students in statewide programs?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

5. Last year, the Department of Education restricted the children of families in the statewide programs who use effective, privately purchased religious curricula, despite the fact that those materials clearly exceed the state's standards under AS 14.03.015, AS 14.07.20, etc.

5. Would you work with our families to guarantee that homeschool parents and teachers can use any materials which are aligned with state standards?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

6. State law currently places no restrictions on independent homeschoolers (AS 14.30.010.10.(b)). Nationwide, there is no correlation between state oversight and homeschooling outcomes.

6. Do you support keeping the current "hands off" approach to independent homeschooling?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes



7. Homeschooling families tend to be more politically involved than the average. Many of our members would be willing to help a candidate who would support homeschooling.

7. Would you like us to tell our member families that you would welcome their help in your campaign?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>  
To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>; <alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>  
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

-----Original Message-----

From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net <mailto:nymeyer@gci.net> ]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM  
To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net; bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com; terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com; joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com; nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com; peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net; sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com

Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov  
<mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov> ]

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM

To: nymeyer@gci.net

Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

Please see the attached letter from Governor Sarah Palin in response to  
your email.

Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

From: imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us <mailto:imagistics6530  
@gov.state.ak.us> ]

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM

To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)

Subject: Scanned PDF

Scanned from IM6530Exec

Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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This document scanned to PDF at  
Juneau Exec Imagistics.

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

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**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 9:20 AM  
**To:** Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

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**Cc:** "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>, ftb907@yahoo.com, "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>, "Smith, Lynne M (GOV)" <lynne.smith@alaska.gov>

**Subject:** Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

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**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 07:30:40 2007

Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

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them? This was ordered by former Governor Murkowski who told his staff to shut us down and quiet the papers. Why wasn't this handled with individual teachers who had a certificate they would like to keep?

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(I'm paraphrasing here.) Glen wondered how Rep. Hawker, and not the legislators who penned the legislation, could make decisions about regulations in the face of laws that are contradict.

Governor Palin told me when we talked (she was in Fairbanks at their fair campaigning) that she believed in competition. Regulating statewide programs with regulations that do not apply to in-district homeschool programs is an equity issue that can not be ignored.

Are you still at the office this morning? If we can not visit via phone today,



when do you return from your (more than likely a much needed) vacation? Lynn,  
who would be your back up while you are on vacation?

When Governor Palin ran for office, she, personally responded to the AHEA  
questionnaire promising statewide homeschoolers, many of whom campaigned for  
her, some very specific things. Please see the list below.

Will the Governor meet with us? Has she turned her back on her promises? Who is  
the Board of EED and the DEED responsible to? Where do they get their authority?

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Sally Javier

1. Currently, the State provides funding for school districts which enroll  
distance education students from around the state. These statewide programs  
currently serve nearly 10,000 Alaskan students.

1. Would you support the continuation of State supported homeschooling in its  
current form?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

2. Brick and mortar schools in Alaska currently spend an average of \$1,500 per pupil on extra-curricular activities, yet the statewide correspondence programs are limited to spending approximately \$800 per pupil for fine arts and P.E.

2. Would you support removing the regulations which cause this inequality among Alaskan students?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

3. The regulations adopted in 2004 and new interpretations of regulations adopted in 2005 impose restrictions on statewide homeschool programs which are not imposed on in-district homeschool programs.

3. Would you work with the families of over 10,000 home school students to correct the disparate treatment of homeschool families according to their enrollment in a statewide or an in-district homeschool program?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

4. The statewide programs receive only 80% of the per pupil foundation formula amount, and they receive no support from local property taxes.

4. Would you work with our members to remove the 20% funding penalty imposed on homeschool students in statewide programs?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

5. Last year, the Department of Education restricted the children of families in the statewide programs who use effective, privately purchased religious curricula, despite the fact that those materials clearly exceed the state's standards under AS 14.03.015, AS 14.07.20, etc.

5. Would you work with our families to guarantee that homeschool parents and teachers can use any materials which are aligned with state standards?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

6. State law currently places no restrictions on independent homeschoolers (AS 14.30.010.10.(b)). Nationwide, there is no correlation between state oversight and homeschooling outcomes.

6. Do you support keeping the current "hands off" approach to independent homeschooling?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

7. Homeschooling families tend to be more politically involved than the average. Many of our members would be willing to help a candidate who would support homeschooling.

7. Would you like us to tell our member families that you would welcome their help in your campaign?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>  
To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>;  
<alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>  
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

-----Original Message-----

From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net <mailto:nymeyer@gci.net> ]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM  
To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net;  
bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com;  
terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com;  
joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com;  
peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net;  
sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov  
<mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov> ]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM  
To: nymeyer@gci.net

Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

Please see the attached letter from Governor Sarah Palin in response to your email.

Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

From: imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us <mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us> ]

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM

To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)

Subject: Scanned PDF

Scanned from IM6530Exec

Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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This document scanned to PDF at

Juneau Exec Imagistics.

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

## Unknown

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:57 AM  
**To:** Smith; Lynne M (GOV); Frank Bailey; Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)  
**Subject:** Fw: Home Schoolers

Good idea from sean

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored)" <sr.parnell@alaska.gov>

**Date:** Sat, 15 Sep 2007 08:51:13

**To:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com

**Subject:** Home Schoolers

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

## Unknown

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**From:** Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [kris.perry@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:51 AM  
**To:** Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); ftb907@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** RE: Letter from Governor Palin

Talis,

Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, Frank had conversations with Glen and could shed any additional light that is needed.

Kris

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)" <govpalin@alaska.gov>  
**To:** "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>  
**Cc:** "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>; "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>; "ftb907@yahoo.com" <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** 9/15/2007 8:33 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

No, it can certainly wait and Glen had better respect your time.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 08:24:55 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Dear governor palin I have tried to read the messages. I will call you or Tibbles Monday about the parameters of meeting with glen. I am hoping it can wait until Monday. Let. Mr know if faster action is needed. Talis.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**To:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)



Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); 'ftb907@yahoo.com' <ftb907@yahoo.com>; Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Smith, Lynne M (GOV)

Sent: Sat Sep 15 07:40:29 2007

Subject: Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Talis- i dumped a load of emails on you re: this issue bc Glen wants to sit down with you on homeschool issues. I know u dont have time. Lynne- pls capture Glen's concerns in a shorter email to Talis, pls cc me in, and then I'll talk to Talis about what we can do to help.

Talis doesnt have to read all the back and forth with Glen.

Glen's delievery of his messages on the fagan show have dampened my enthusiasm, to say the least.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com <ftb907@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sat Sep 15 07:30:40 2007

Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Sorry to keep bothering you. Here is the link to the memo from Norstrand about religious materials. Just want to save you time.

Thanks

Glen

[http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG_Memo.pdf)

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>

To: gbiegel@ak.net

Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com

Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:56 AM

Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Glen- i am in Juneau. I got your message a couple of days ago, have been tasking folks to find out what I'm missing so you could receive an appropriate response with going back and forth again. Without fail, each person has reported back that they were confident they had communicated with you about our desire to help. I had people spend more than a day looking for "my" letter to you that seemed to have been the catalyst for the miscommunications on the air, because we wanted all info in front of us in order to respond. That letter was nonexistent, I believe you clarified then about the letter. That was less than three days ago. We're still seeking info on this issue so there will be no more miscommunications, damaged relationships, distrust, missed opportunities to help, etc. I believe you overreacted and you left many people with the impression that their homeschool issues will be better dealt with in a different administration.

It doesn't seem wise to me for you to "make guesses" about anything, then speak about it on the air. I have not had the chance to sit down with the AG to speak about this, as your request is to speak to him, so though it's not wise, nor fair, to "make guesses" again on the air, I can not tell you what to say on air... I've already expressed the commitment to help, the tasking of staff to gather more information so the board can more aggressively tackle the issues, I've insisted homeschoolers get adequate time to address the board... etc.

I know Frank Bailey was able to speak with you from Anchorage. I am sure he told you again that we're working to find solutions, as Pat Shier (I believe) has also conveyed to you.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 06:38:06 2007  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

I still don't have any indication on how you want to proceed (Timeframe, next steps, meetings, etc). I am having to make guesses on what will happen in the future without any guidance, and then speak about it on the air. I will indicate on air that I did not get the information to you or to the right people and that I have every confidence that this issue will turn out, but it would be nice to have something more than your response below. I don't want to make things worse (if they can get worse).

Thanks

Glen

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>

To: gbiegel@ak.net

Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2007 1:49 PM

Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

I was not provided all this information/communications Glen. Thanks for bringing it to my attention- but this is all the more reason a more responsible venue should have been found for you to air your grievances instead of playing into our known critic's hands. Fagan seemed to be using you, big time. All I could think of when listening to you was: "With friends like this, who needs enemies".

And it's not personally "hard on me" to go through things like that yesterday, but a conservative agenda gets squashed when those who could be working together to accomplish something are set up like you were yesterday. That was brutal Glen, and I've heard from others saying worse things than "brutal". Please don't pass these thoughts on to Fagan - he hates me and my administration enough as it is.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wed Sep 12 09:25:25 2007

Subject: Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

Here is a copy of a letter from Lynn Smith and an email from one of our parents.

Thanks

Glen

Here also is a paste from a different email about a response to Lynn Smith and a conversation that She, Sally Javier and I had:

Hi Lynn,

Thank you for replying. I would like to talk to you more on the comments from Barbara Thompson and share more information that I pray you will share with the Governor. The comments from Mrs. Thompson raise many concerns for parents who have been left out of this process.

There was the perception of abuse. How many of these abuses were documented? Why didn't the DEED do something? All the laws needed to prevent that abuse were in place. All the regulations needed to stop the abuse were in place. Why was regulation written in the absence of law? Do they admit that it destroys competition? Do they admit that homeschoolers are having choice stripped from them? This was ordered by former Governor Murkowski who told his staff to shut us down and quiet the papers. Why wasn't this handled with individual teachers who had a certificate they would like to keep?

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7. Would you like us to tell our member families that you would welcome their help in your campaign?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>  
To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>; <alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>  
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

-----Original Message-----

From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM  
To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net;



bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com;  
terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com;  
joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com;  
peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net;  
sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM  
To: nymeyer@gci.net  
Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

Please see the attached letter from Governor Sarah Palin in response to  
your email.

Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

From: imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM  
To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)  
Subject: Scanned PDF

Scanned from IM6530Exec

Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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This document scanned to PDF at  
Juneau Exec Imagistics.

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11:14 PM

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**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:44 AM  
**To:** Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)  
**Cc:** 'ftb907@yahoo.com'; Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Ive been ccing Tibs (and lynne and Frank and Kris) bc they've all heard of Glen's false accusations re: our "broken promises" re: homeschooling, so Tibs will let you know where we should go next in working with glen and the homeschool organization. I've asked lynne to summarize everything for you so you're not starting from scratch.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 08:40:38 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Dear governor palin. Thankyou. I know there is a related memo to rep Neuman from February and I have a copy of the Nordstrand memo. I will review them and then contact you or Tibbles Monday morning about contacting this fellow. Does Tibbles know about this or do you want mr to call you directly? Either way is fine. Thanks. Talis.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**To:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); 'ftb907@yahoo.com' <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 08:33:17 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

No, it can certainly wait and Glen had better respect your time.

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**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
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Glen's delievery of his messages on the fagan show have dampened my enthusiasm, to say the least.

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[http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG_Memo.pdf)

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Will the Governor meet with us? Has she turned her back on her promises? Who is the Board of EED and the DEED responsible to? Where do they get their authority?

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Sincerely,

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1. Currently, the State provides funding for school districts which enroll distance education students from around the state. These statewide programs currently serve nearly 10,000 Alaskan students.

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2. Brick and mortar schools in Alaska currently spend an average of \$1,500 per pupil on extra-curricular activities, yet the statewide correspondence programs are limited to spending approximately \$800 per pupil for fine arts and P.E.

2. Would you support removing the regulations which cause this inequality among Alaskan students?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

3. The regulations adopted in 2004 and new interpretations of regulations adopted in 2005 impose restrictions on statewide homeschool programs which are not imposed on in-district homeschool programs.

3. Would you work with the families of over 10,000 home school students to correct the disparate treatment of homeschool families according to their enrollment in a statewide or an in-district homeschool program?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

4. The statewide programs receive only 80% of the per pupil foundation formula amount, and they receive no support from local property taxes.

4. Would you work with our members to remove the 20% funding penalty imposed on homeschool students in statewide programs?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

5. Last year, the Department of Education restricted the children of families in the statewide programs who use effective, privately purchased religious curricula, despite the fact that those materials clearly exceed the state's standards under AS 14.03.015, AS 14.07.20, etc.

5. Would you work with our families to guarantee that homeschool parents and teachers can use any materials which are aligned with state standards?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

6. State law currently places no restrictions on independent homeschoolers (AS 14.30.010.10.(b)). Nationwide, there is no correlation between state oversight and homeschooling outcomes.

6. Do you support keeping the current "hands off" approach to independent homeschooling?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

7. Homeschooling families tend to be more politically involved than the average. Many of our members would be willing to help a candidate who would support homeschooling.

7. Would you like us to tell our member families that you would welcome their help in your campaign?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>

To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>; <alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>

Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM

Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

-----Original Message-----

From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM  
To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net;  
bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com;  
terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com;  
joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com;  
peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net;  
sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM  
To: nymeyer@gci.net  
Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

Please see the attached letter from Governor Sarah Palin in response to your email.

Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

From: imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us]

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM

To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)

Subject: Scanned PDF

Scanned from IM6530Exec

Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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This document scanned to PDF at

Juneau Exec Imagistics.

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

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Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

## Unknown

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:34 AM  
**To:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV)  
**Cc:** Mason; Janice L (GOV); Katz; John W (GOV)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter

Did the editorial pertain to barb's letter's content?

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Michael A Tibbles  
**To:** Governor Sarah Palin  
**To:** Michael A Tibbles  
**To:** Lynne M Smith  
**Cc:** Janice L Mason  
**Cc:** John Katz  
**Sent:** Sep 15, 2007 8:30 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Letter

We did ask Barbara Thompson to send the letter and she agreed. I will have to check to see if it is already out the door.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "gov.sarah@yahoo.com" <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "Michael A Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>; "Lynne M Smith" <lynne.smith@alaska.gov>  
**Cc:** "Janice L Mason" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>; "John Katz" <jwkatz@alaskadc.org>  
**Sent:** 9/15/2007 6:29 AM  
**Subject:** Letter

Did the Educ letter go out already re: the college student loan issue? If not sent to margaret spelling pls hold on to it so i can study up more on the issue. Does the issue involve those points made in today's ADN editorial re: congressional action on college loans' "middle men"?

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

## Unknown

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**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:33 AM  
**To:** Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); 'ftb907@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

No, it can certainly wait and Glen had better respect your time.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 08:24:55 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Dear governor palin I have tried to read the messages. I will call you or Tibbles Monday about the parameters of meeting with glen. I am hoping it can wait until Monday. Let. Mr know if faster action is needed. Talis.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**To:** Colberg, Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); 'ftb907@yahoo.com' <ftb907@yahoo.com>; Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Smith, Lynne M (GOV)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 07:40:29 2007  
**Subject:** Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Talis- i dumped a load of emails on you re: this issue bc Glen wants to sit down with you on homeschool issues. I know u dont have time. Lynne- pls capture Glen's concerns in a shorter email to Talis, pls cc me in, and then I'll talk to Talis about what we can do to help.

Talis doesnt have to read all the back and forth with Glen.

Glen's delievery of his messages on the fagan show have dampened my enthusiasm, to say the least.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>



To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 07:30:40 2007  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Sorry to keep bothering you. Here is the link to the memo from Norstrand about religious materials. Just want to save you time.

Thanks

Glen

[http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG\\_Memo.pdf](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/AG_Memo.pdf)

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>  
To: gbiegel@ak.net  
Cc: ftb907@yahoo.com  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:56 AM  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Glen- i am in Juneau. I got your message a couple of days ago, have been tasking folks to find out what I'm missing so you could receive an appropriate response with going back and forth again. Without fail, each person has reported back that they were confident they had communicated with you about our desire to help. I had people spend more than a day looking for "my" letter to you that seemed to have been the catalyst for the miscommunications on the air, because we wanted all info in front of us in order to respond. That letter was nonexistent, I believe you clarified then about the letter. That was less than three days ago. We're still seeking info on this issue so there will be no more miscommunications, damaged relationships, distrust, missed opportunities to help, etc. I believe you overreacted and you left many people with the impression that their homeschool issues will be better dealt with in a different administration.

It doesn't seem wise to me for you to "make guesses" about anything, then speak about it on the air. I have not had the chance to sit down with the AG to speak about this, as your request is to speak to him, so though it's not wise, nor fair, to "make guesses" again on the air, I can not tell you what to say on air... I've already expressed the commitment to help, the tasking of staff to gather more information so the board can more aggressively tackle the issues, I've insisted homeschoolers get adequate time to address the board... etc.

I know Frank Bailey was able to speak with you from Anchorage. I am sure he told you again

that we're working to find solutions, as Pat Shier (I believe) has also conveyed to you.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 06:38:06 2007  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

I still don't have any indication on how you want to proceed (Timeframe, next steps, meetings, etc). I am having to make guesses on what will happen in the future without any guidance, and then speak about it on the air. I will indicate on air that I did not get the information to you or to the right people and that I have every confidence that this issue will turn out, but it would be nice to have something more than your response below. I don't want to make things worse (if they can get worse).

Thanks

Glen

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>  
To: gbiegel@ak.net  
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2007 1:49 PM  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

I was not provided all this information/communications Glen. Thanks for bringing it to my attention- but this is all the more reason a more responsible venue should have been found for you to air your grievances instead of playing into our known critic's hands. Fagan seemed to be using you, big time. All I could think of when listening to you was: "With friends like this, who needs enemies".

And it's not personally "hard on me" to go through things like that yesterday, but a conservative agenda gets squashed when those who could be working together to accomplish something are set up like you were yesterday. That was brutal Glen, and I've heard from others saying worse things than "brutal". Please don't pass these thoughts on to Fagan -

he hates me and my administration enough as it is.

----- Original Message -----

From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Wed Sep 12 09:25:25 2007  
Subject: Fw: Letter from Governor Palin

Governor,

Here is a copy of a letter from Lynn Smith and an email from one of our parents.

Thanks

Glen

Here also is a paste from a different email about a response to Lynn Smith and a conversation that She, Sally Javier and I had:

Hi Lynn,

Thank you for replying. I would like to talk to you more on the comments from Barbara Thompson and share more information that I pray you will share with the Governor. The comments from Mrs. Thompson raise many concerns for parents who have been left out of this process.

There was the perception of abuse. How many of these abuses were documented? Why didn't the DEED do something? All the laws needed to prevent that abuse were in place. All the regulations needed to stop the abuse were in place. Why

was regulation written in the absence of law? Do they admit that it destroys competition? Do they admit that homeschoolers are having choice stripped from them? This was ordered by former Governor Murkowski who told his staff to shut us down and quiet the papers. Why wasn't this handled with individual teachers who had a certificate they would like to keep?

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From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>  
To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>;  
<alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>  
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

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From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM  
To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net;  
bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com;  
terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com;  
joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com;  
peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net;  
sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov]



Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM

To: nymeyer@gci.net

Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

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Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

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Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM

To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)

Subject: Scanned PDF

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Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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## Unknown

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**From:** Frye, Ivy J (DOA) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=IJFRYE]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:16 AM  
**To:** 'govpalin@alaska.gov'  
**Cc:** 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; 'bristol\_\_palin@hotmail.com'  
**Subject:** Re: Bensons

That would be great! We would love to come over! Thank you!

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**To:** Frye, Ivy J (DOA)  
**Cc:** 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>; 'bristol\_\_palin@hotmail.com' <bristol\_\_palin@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 08:10:33 2007  
**Subject:** Bensons

Ivy: When you get to the Valley let's have Bensons and you come over to visit. Bristol can brew a mean cup of coffee!

Think they'll be around when you're there?

## Unknown

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**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:11 AM  
**To:** Frye; Ivy J (DOA)  
**Cc:** 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; 'bristol\_\_palin@hotmail.com'  
**Subject:** Bensons

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5. Last year, the Department of Education restricted the children of families in the statewide programs who use effective, privately purchased religious curricula, despite the fact that those materials clearly exceed the state's standards under AS 14.03.015, AS 14.07.20, etc.

5. Would you work with our families to guarantee that homeschool parents and teachers can use any materials which are aligned with state standards?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

6. State law currently places no restrictions on independent homeschoolers (AS

14.30.010.10.(b)). Nationwide, there is no correlation between state oversight and homeschooling outcomes.

6. Do you support keeping the current "hands off" approach to independent homeschooling?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

7. Homeschooling families tend to be more politically involved than the average. Many of our members would be willing to help a candidate who would support homeschooling.

7. Would you like us to tell our member families that you would welcome their help in your campaign?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: "sally.javier" <sally.javier@ideafamilies.org>  
To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>; <alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>  
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2007 9:24 PM  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

-----Original Message-----

From: S. Nymeyer [mailto:nymeyer@gci.net]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:54 PM

To: 'Sally Javier'; adougherty@gci.net; benshier@gci.net;  
bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org; baheinrichs@hotmail.com;  
terinalochner@yahoo.com; gbiegel@ak.net; jclum@gci.net; jenhowie4@yahoo.com;  
joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
nels.tomlinson@gmail.com; patshier@gci.net; peterkott1971@aol.com;  
peterkott@hotmail.com; sally.javier@ideafamilies.org; sguffanti@cox.net;  
sallyjavier@yahoo.com; kodiakak@gmail.com; vonclumm@gmail.com  
Subject: FW: Letter from Governor Palin

Somehow this wasn't exactly the response I was hoping for...

Susan

-----Original Message-----

From: Castle, Lillian K (GOV) [mailto:lynn.castle@alaska.gov]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM  
To: nymeyer@gci.net  
Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

Please see the attached letter from Governor Sarah Palin in response to  
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Lynn Castle

-----Original Message-----

From: imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us]  
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:48 PM  
To: Castle, Lillian K (GOV)  
Subject: Scanned PDF

Scanned from IM6530Exec

Public Scan

Scan to PDF

Date:2007/07/30

Pages:1

Resolution:200

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## Unknown

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**From:** gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 7:36 AM  
**To:** Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Subject:** Fw: Beigel

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Michael A Tibbles  
**To:** Governor Sarah Palin  
**Sent:** Sep 12, 2007 6:50 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Beigel

Governor,

I tracked down a copy of the letter. Lynne sent me a copy in PDF format. I will send it to Kris and have her print it out for you.

The letter was sent under Lynne's signature in response to a letter writing effort by the home school folks. The letter basically points out that there is a new chair of the board of ed and they should work with her. Lynne clearly stated your support for educational choice including home schooling.

After Pat Shier was appointed to the board and he requested a work session on the issue. I did not hear of any reluctance by the board as they scheduled the worksession for their next meeting.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

**From:** "gov.sarah@yahoo.com" <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>  
**Cc:** "Michael A Tibbles" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>; "Lynne M Smith" <lynne.smith@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** 9/12/2007 6:32 PM  
**Subject:** Beigel

Welcome back Lynne!

Did I see that letter that the signature machine signed re: glen beigel's homeschool issue(s), i think it was in response to a letter he or the homeschool group must have sent us.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One



## Unknown

---

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 7:20 AM  
**To:** 'fb907@yahoo.com'; Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)  
**Subject:** Fw: sarahpalin.com

How in the world did Glen get involved in this aspect of any future campaign?

Fb- what do u recommend on the .com name? I dont want to work through Glen on this or he'll think we owe him something

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 07:17:37 2007  
**Subject:** Fw: sarahpalin.com

Sarah,

Here is the email about the site.

Thanks

Glen

----- Original Message -----

**From:** "Peter Torkelson" <peter@advanced-design.com>  
**To:** "Glen Biegel" <gbiegel@ak.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 02, 2007 12:15 PM  
**Subject:** Re: sarahpalin.com

I certainly don't expect you to pay, but I think it would be in her interest to have it forward to .gov and then own and use it for the next election cycle. Generally the campaign would pay all coming four years in one shot and then I would set it to forward and we

would all forget about it until 2010.

P.

>I can help to pay, or talk with someone in the administration (or even  
>to

>Sarah). What were you thinking you would like to do?

>

>Thanks

>Glen

>----- Original Message -----

>From: "Peter Torkelson" <peter@advanced-design.com>

>To: "Glen Biegel" <gbiegel@ak.net>

>Sent: Monday, January 01, 2007 11:55 PM

>Subject: sarahpalin.com

>

>

>Glen,

>

>Doing year end wrap ups. What do you want me to do with

>sarahpalin.com. Domain renewal costs for the last 3 years are \$30,

>coming 4 years is \$40. I can set to forward gov.state.ak.us which

>would make the most sense at this point. I normally charge \$2 a

>month for that.

>

>Let me know what to do.

>

>P.

## Unknown

---

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 7:17 AM  
**To:** Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'; 'ftb907@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** Letter from Governor Palin

Talis- glen is infuriating lately. He wants to talk to you about homeschoolers i'm on his side but his rants on the dan fagan show opned my eyes to how unwise he is in the way he wants to address the issue. I'll send you his previous emails on the subject.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Cc:** ftb907@yahoo.com <ftb907@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sat Sep 15 07:16:26 2007  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Thank you for the response. That helps me a lot.

God Bless,

Glen

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>  
**To:** gbiegel@ak.net  
**Cc:** ftb907@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:56 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from Governor Palin

Glen- i am in Juneau. I got your message a couple of days ago, have been tasking folks to find out what I'm missing so you could receive an appropriate response with going back and forth again. Without fail, each person has reported back that they were confident they had communicated with you about our desire to help. I had people spend more than a day looking for "my" letter to you that seemed to have been the catalyst for the miscommunications on the air, because we wanted all info in front of us in order to respond. That letter was nonexistent, I believe you clarified then about the letter. That was less than three days ago. We're still seeking info on this issue so there will be no more miscommunications, damaged relationships, distrust, missed opportunities to help, etc. I believe you overreacted and you left many people with the impression that their homeschool issues will be better dealt with in a different administration.

It doesn't seem wise to me for you to "make guesses" about anything, then speak about it on the air. I have not had the chance to sit down with the AG to speak about this, as your request is to speak to him, so though it's not wise, nor fair, to "make guesses" again on the air, I can not tell you what to say on air... I've already expressed the commitment to help, the tasking of staff to gather more information so the board can more aggressively tackle the issues, I've insisted homeschoolers get adequate time to address the board... etc.

I know Frank Bailey was able to speak with you from Anchorage. I am sure he told you again that we're working to find solutions, as Pat Shier (I believe) has also conveyed to you.

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From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 06:38:06 2007  
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Thanks

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----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) <mailto:govpalin@alaska.gov>  
To: gbiegel@ak.net  
Sent: Wednesday, September 12, 2007 1:49 PM  
Subject: Re: Letter from Governor Palin

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And it's not personally "hard on me" to go through things like that yesterday, but a conservative agenda gets squashed when those who could be working together to accomplish something are set up like you were yesterday. That was brutal Glen, and I've heard from others saying worse things than "brutal". Please don't pass these thoughts on to Fagan - he hates me and my administration enough as it is.

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From: Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
Sent: Wed Sep 12 09:25:25 2007  
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Governor,

Here is a copy of a letter from Lynn Smith and an email from one of our parents.

Thanks

Glen

Here also is a paste from a different email about a response to Lynn Smith and a conversation that She, Sally Javier and I had:

Hi Lynn,

Thank you for replying. I would like to talk to you more on the comments from Barbara Thompson and share more information that I pray you will share with the Governor. The comments from Mrs. Thompson raise many concerns for parents who

have been left out of this process.

There was the perception of abuse. How many of these abuses were documented? Why didn't the DEED do something? All the laws needed to prevent that abuse were in place. All the regulations needed to stop the abuse were in place. Why was regulation written in the absence of law? Do they admit that it destroys competition? Do they admit that homeschooolers are having choice stripped from them? This was ordered by former Governor Murkowski who told his staff to shut us down and quiet the papers. Why wasn't this handled with individual teachers who had a certificate they would like to keep?

Also, Lynn, it is not going to work for Mrs. Thompson to say that Galena agreed to this. Galena was negotiating with the DEED and lobbying the legislature for other programs at the same time. Where were the other statewide programs at this meeting? Where were the parents? Open testimony was closed even though there were lots of us waiting. Does Galena speak for all? A quick call to any of the Galena folks will give you the honest answer that all statewide programs were being held at gunpoint during those meetings. The gun was that if they did not take what they were offered, the Murkowski DEED and Murkowski Board of EED would shut them down. That meeting was one of the reasons why parents organized to look after the welfare of their children.

(I'm paraphrasing here.) Glen wondered how Rep. Hawker, and not the legislators who penned the legislation, could make decisions about regulations in the face of laws that are contradict.

Governor Palin told me when we talked (she was in Fairbanks at their fair campaigning) that she believed in competition. Regulating statewide programs with regulations that do not apply to in-district homeschool programs is an equity issue that can not be ignored.

Are you still at the office this morning? If we can not visit via phone today, when do you return from your (more than likely a much needed) vacation? Lynn, who would be your back up while you are on vacation?

When Governor Palin ran for office, she, personally responded to the AHEA questionnaire promising statewide homeschoolers, many of whom campaigned for her, some very specific things. Please see the list below.

Will the Governor meet with us? Has she turned her back on her promises? Who is the Board of EED and the DEED responsible to? Where do they get their authority?

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Sally Javier

1. Currently, the State provides funding for school districts which enroll distance education students from around the state. These statewide programs currently serve nearly 10,000 Alaskan students.

1. Would you support the continuation of State supported homeschooling in its current form?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

2. Brick and mortar schools in Alaska currently spend an average of \$1,500 per pupil on extra-curricular activities, yet the statewide correspondence programs are limited to spending approximately \$800 per pupil for fine arts and P.E.

2. Would you support removing the regulations which cause this inequality among Alaskan students?

Candidate Sarah Palin - Yes

3. The regulations adopted in 2004 and new interpretations of regulations adopted in 2005 impose restrictions on statewide homeschool programs which are not imposed on in-district homeschool programs.

3. Would you work with the families of over 10,000 home school students to correct the disparate treatment of homeschool families according to their enrollment in a statewide or an in-district homeschool program?

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4. The statewide programs receive only 80% of the per pupil foundation formula amount, and they receive no support from local property taxes.

4. Would you work with our members to remove the 20% funding penalty imposed on homeschool students in statewide programs?

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5. Last year, the Department of Education restricted the children of families in the statewide programs who use effective, privately purchased religious curricula, despite the fact that those materials clearly exceed the state's standards under AS 14.03.015, AS 14.07.20, etc.

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Sent: Monday, July 30, 2007 4:24 PM

To: nymeyer@gci.net

Subject: Letter from Governor Palin

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Lynn Castle

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Subject: Scanned PDF

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Public Scan

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Date:2007/07/30

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Resolution:200

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**From:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 7:01 AM  
**To:** 'gbiegel@ak.net'  
**Subject:** Re: sarahpalin.com

I will look into the .com name. I hope whomever it is who's been holding on to the name hasn't had to pay for it. Who is it?

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Glen Biegel <gbiegel@ak.net>  
**To:** Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Sent:** Thu Sep 13 22:09:10 2007  
**Subject:** sarahpalin.com

Sarah,

I have some friends that have been keeping sarahpalin.com from enemy hands. It needs to be renewed. They would like to keep it (but need whatever the cost is to do that), or give it to you. What should I say?

Thanks

Glen

## Unknown

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**To:** 'gbiegel@ak.net'  
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To: <adougherty@gci.net>; <bheinrichs01@kodiakschools.org>; <gbiegel@ak.net>; <alaskaplantlady@alaska.net>

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joslin@wildak.net; alaskaplantlady@alaska.net; michelle@elementalmuse.com;  
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Date:2007/07/30

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No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.25/926 - Release Date: 7/29/2007

11:14 PM

## Unknown

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From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:18 AM  
To: Fagerstrom; Erika (GOV)  
Subject: Re: Teams

Thanks - enjoy a mellow weekend. Enjoy your family. Pls tell Diane how much the boys appreciated all the work she did too.

Let me know the best date for a nice dinner for jdhs.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Fagerstrom, Erika (GOV)" <erika.fagerstrom@alaska.gov>

Date: Sat, 15 Sep 2007 02:14:34

To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com

Subject: Re: Teams

Thank you for having the Colony team over- you're awesome! The kids gave a lot of heartfelt thank yous and seemed very appreciative. Thanks for pushing through all the "yuck"- you're the best!

Sorry it went soooo late!

Give Track a hug for me! I'll be praying for your boy!!!

It was a lot of fun having your family and Molly and her kids. :)

Have a good flight!!!

Erika

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>  
To: Fagerstrom, Erika (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)  
Sent: Sat Sep 15 01:16:22 2007  
Subject: Teams

Thank you so very much for all you did for the football players. I sincerely hope they appreciate all your efforts - I certainly do!

Let's schedule the Juneau kids for the week of Sept 21 or Sept 28. If coaches like the "night before game" meals, you guys pick the Thursday and I'll look forward it.

Thank you!!!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One



## Unknown

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From: Fagerstrom, Erika (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE  
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EFAGERSTROM]  
Sent: Saturday, September 15, 2007 2:15 AM  
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'  
Subject: Re: Teams

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Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

## Unknown

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**From:** Tibbles, Michael A (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE  
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MATIBBLES]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 6:00 PM  
**To:** Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)  
**Subject:** North Slope Fire

Governor,

Walt just called me to report another fire on the North Slope at Kuparuk. The fire occurred in a ConocoPhillips Conex that was being used as a shop and storage area. We do not have details of how the fire started but it is being reported that the fire was small and was contained to the Conex. We learned of the fire from ConocoPhillips when they contacted the State Fire Marshall's office. They initially asked if we would like to investigate but later called back and requested the Fire Marshall's office participation in reviewing the situation. They commented that in light of the recent fires, they wanted to be transparent. We are sending someone to inspect tomorrow. DPS is not initiating any media.

Mike

**Unknown**

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**From:** Ruaro, Randall P (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=RPRUARO]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 9:40 PM  
**To:** 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** Misc.

Dear Governor Palin:

Thank you for the opportunity to work for you. I will try and contribute as quickly as I can.

Just briefly, I have now met personally with all the Commissioners in my portfolio and the AG and asked about their issues. I also mentioned the idea from the meeting last week with Commissioner Monegan of forming a Criminal Justice Working Group or Commission. I think it would be similar to the group formed by Governor Hickel by an Administrative Order back in 1993. I have a meeting scheduled for next week to follow up with the Lt. Governor.

Also, a few positive things happened last week. The court case against the state related to the Anchorage jail and prisoner transport settled out of court by agreement of the attorneys. Documents should be filed with the court soon. The municipality and the State can now get back to working together.

DOT and the City of Ketchikan were locked in a nasty dispute over road and utility work on the main road in Ketchikan, with DOT threatening to shut down the project if the city did not approve payment of another \$775,000 for change orders. We managed to get everyone to agree to finish the project and sort out who pays later. The project should be completed in another week or 10 days.

I am working on a Gravina strategy and will meet with Mike again on Monday. A majority of my time so far has been spent meeting with DOT personnel and frankly, trying to find out exactly what issues are lying out there, what projects, items, they are working on, deadlines for action, and bringing some of them to the attention of the COS. (For example, the State's first Highway Safety Plan is due to the feds from the State on Oct. 1, and DOT's draft has some items in it (mandatory motorcycle helmets, now that will cause some controversy and would impact the state budget – a new state highway safety team).

Sincerely,

Randy Ruaro

8/26/2009

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**Unknown**

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Sincerely,

Randy Ruaro

8/25/2009

PRA\_GSP01\_0005005

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Mike

**Byers, Gail Y (LAW)**

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**From:** Smith, Lynne M (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE  
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=LMSMITH1]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 7:29 PM  
**To:** Colberg; Talis J (LAW)  
**Cc:** 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'  
**Subject:** statewide correspondence programs and state supported home school support issues

This is an information sheet that Eddy Jeans did for our (Governor, Mike Tibbles and me) meeting with Commissioner Sampson and Chairman Mauer in May. I thought the history would help.

I am working with Barbara Thompson on the "short" list of Mr. Biegel's concerns.

Lynne

-----Original Message-----

**From:** imagistics6530 [mailto:imagistics6530@gov.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 15, 2007 8:18 PM  
**To:** Smith, Lynne M (GOV)  
**Subject:** Scanned PDF

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Date:2007/09/15

Pages:2

Resolution:200

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## Statewide Correspondence Programs & State Supported Home School Support Issues

- In the spring of 1998, the Alaska Legislature passed the new public school funding formula. Included in the legislation was funding for school districts that operated correspondence programs outside of their districts' boundaries, on a statewide basis. The legislation did not provide the department with guidance pertaining to the operation of these programs.
- Many of these statewide correspondence programs have developed and grown into what is known as state-supported home school programs.
- In the fall of 1998, the State Board of Education adopted regulation establishing an application process for public schools districts that elected to operate statewide correspondence programs.
- As these programs evolved, additional regulation were adopted to provide school districts with guidance in the operation of these programs. Absent specific legislative direction, the State Board assumed responsibility to establish guidelines for appropriate use of public funding by these programs.
- Almost all of these programs provide families with a **reimbursement allotment**, for each enrolled student, which can be used to purchase supplies, materials, tutors, and other educational expenses.
- Allotments for each child range from \$1,200 to \$2,000, depending on the child's grade level.
- School districts are funded \$4,304 per student enrolled in correspondence programs which is 80% of the base student allocation and is set in law.
- The department asked for guidance from the Legislature in 2004, for the passage of legislation that defines acceptable and appropriate use of public funds in the cash allotments, for these programs. The legislature suggested EED work with school districts and parents to resolve issues.
- In 2004, in response to many public and private complaints from Alaskan's about how the cash allotments were being spent, and at the request of the Alaska State Legislature, the Department of Education & Early Development promulgated regulations that would identify appropriate expenditures for the cash allotments.
- EED received documented reports of allotment funding being spent on family vacations, entire family health club memberships, water park passes, the purchase of animals, cameras, sewing machines, athletic shoes and other items that family members were not expected to return at the end of the course of study in the statewide correspondence program.

- EED can see the educational benefits when courses are linked to Alaska standards but the general public doesn't when funds are used in a questionable manner.
- It was also documented that some programs allowed the cash allotments to be used totally on music lessons, sports camps, art lessons, and other elective courses. In many instances, students were enrolled in no core academic programs.
- The State Board of Education & Early Development adopted regulations that required students to enroll in at least 50% core academic courses.
- Families may use up to 15% of their allotment (\$807) for art, music and physical education. This amount is based on 15% of the state's foundation base student allocation, which is \$5,380.
- This state imposed cap allows individuals to spend between 40-67% of their cash allotment on non core academic programs depending on the individual student allotment.
- EED highly values and supports home school programs and programs of choice. EED does not oppose families purchasing and using religious materials on their own. The state just can't pay for it.
- EED supports dual enrollment in community schools and correspondence programs when it provides the maximum benefit for the students.
- Some community schools have music and art in group settings but students in community schools don't enjoy the benefit of private one on one lessons.
- EED supports the traditional home schoolers as well as those that utilize the state supported home schooling programs operated by districts. Families that enroll in state support home schooling program must understand that once they accept public monies there will be strings and limitations attached.